



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/682,554 Confirmation No. : 9463
First Named Inventor : Hideki NAGATSUKA
Filed : October 10, 2003
TC/A.U. : 2121
Examiner : Ronald D. Hartman

Docket No. : 056203.51548C1
Customer No. : 23911

Title : Plant Operating Apparatus and Method

AFTER-FINAL REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in response to the Office Action dated May 1, 2006.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.